

Plastic Film Cooperative Recycling Initiative— Agricultural Plastic Film

For discussion between California Integrated Waste Management Board staff and stakeholders in developing a detailed plan for agricultural plastic film diversion projects.

Agricultural Plastic Film Collection

Objectives

- 1 Identify the types, amounts, and locations of Ag film generated in California
- 2 Develop new and improved technology for pulling Ag film from the field in a cleaner and more compact State.
- 3 Increase the collection of Ag film
- 4 Increase processing capacity for Ag film

Metrics

- 1 Number of Ag film washing lines and their capacity
- 2 Number of consolidation points
 - a. Number of jurisdictions served
 - b. Landfills, transfer stations, mobile collection services
- 3 Number of Ag film pullers and amounts
 - c. List in database/area served
 - d. Number of using new technology developed by UCLA
- 4 Amount of Ag film disposed
 - e. Targeted Waste Characterization Study (WCS)
 - f. Local Enforcement Agencies (LEA) reporting conditions
- 5 Number of existing Education and Outreach programs
 - g. Local jurisdictions
 - h. Best Management Practices (BMP) by crop
 - i. Farm bureau
 - ii. County Ag commissioners
 - iii. Crop Commissions i.e. strawberry commission

Tasks and Deliverables

- 1 Site washing lines
 - a. Follow up with existing contacts for companies that want to site a plant in California

- i. RKO
 - 1. meet with RMDZ staff to get an update
 - 2. Collect operational data
 - a. Types of material and sources
 - b. Plant capacity
 - c. Markets (Who selling to)
 - d. Capital and operational costs
 - ii. Your Sunflower
 - 1. Regular contact with county staff to track progress
 - 2. Collect operational data
 - a. Types of material and sources
 - b. Plant capacity
 - c. Markets (Who selling to)
 - d. Capital and operational costs
 - iii. ENO
 - 1. Maintain regular contact with ENO to track progress
 - 2. Collect operational data
 - a. Types of material and sources
 - b. Plant capacity
 - c. Markets (Who selling to)
 - d. Capital and operational costs
 - iv. California Plastics
 - 1. Maintain regular contact to track progress
 - 2. Collect operational data
 - a. Types of material and sources
 - b. Plant capacity
 - c. Markets (Who selling to)
 - d. Capital and operational costs
 - v. Poly America
 - 1. Maintain regular contact re: status of washing line
 - a. Texas plant
 - b. Las Vegas plant
 - b. Identify additional companies that want to build a washing line in CA
 - i. Trex
 - ii. Ramadan International PTE.LTD (RIL group)
 - iii. Mountain valley
 - iv. San Bernardino composter
 - v. Hylex
 - vi. Agri-Plas, Inc
- 2 Infrastructure Analysis
- a. Ag film infrastructure study (Cal Poly SLO)
 - b. RMDZ central coast zone Ag film study

- c. Targeted WCS of landfill survey
- d. Other focused research projects as needed
- e. GIS database
- 3 Site consolidation points
 - a. Identify existing projects to monitor and use as potential case studies
 - i. Tulare
 - ii. Monterey
 - iii. Imperial
 - iv. Ventura
 - b. Using results of infrastructure study and GIS database development, identify landfills & transfer stations or other facilities that can be used as consolidation points
 - c. Do outreach to facility operators to establish a consolidation point at their facility
- 4 Regional film generation
 - a. Where to site washing lines and consolidation points
 - b. Amount of feedstock for end use manufacturers
- 5 Education and Outreach
 - a. Develop an inventory of growers association and commissions to target
 - i. Verify if they provide BMPs and if they address managing film
 - 1. offer revised guidance as necessary
 - b. Local Farm Bureau & Ag extension offices
 - i. Work with local farm bureaus to promote collection of Ag film for recycling
 - ii. Develop case studies
 - iii. Workshop & conference presentations
 - c. Work with processors to promote use of PCM derived from Ag plastics in new products
 - i. Targeted end users
 - 1. Film manufacturers (closed loop)
 - 2. plastic lumber
 - 3. automotive parts
 - 4. other durable plastic products
 - ii. Workshop/conferences presentations
 - iii. Add manufacturing representative to working groups
 - iv. Case studies/spec sheets (testimonials)
 - v. Articles in trade publications
 - d. Promote use of new pulling and washing technologies
 - e. Educate farmers regarding locations of consolidation points, pullers and washing lines
 - i. Annual crop reports by county –provide BMPs

Key Stakeholders

- 1 Growers
- 2 Collectors
- 3 Haulers
- 4 Recyclers and processors
- 5 Landfill Operators
- 6 Local governments